

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A printing apparatus which performs printing using a printhead having plural printing elements.

- 5 Print data corresponding to a defective nozzle is added to print data corresponding to an adjacent normal nozzle, then the print data corresponding to the defective nozzle is masked, and printing is performed based on the print data corresponding to the normal
- 10 nozzle as a result of addition and the masked print data corresponding to the defective nozzle. An image printing operation is performed by preferably 1-path printing. Further, preferably, the print data corresponding to the defective nozzle is sequentially
- 15 distributed between data corresponding to two adjacent normal nozzles. Otherwise, on/off states of the data corresponding to the two adjacent normal nozzles are detected then the print data corresponding to the defective nozzle is distributed based on the result of
- 20 detection.